



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

Gahanna, OH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Gahanna was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and two cleanup grants. Once a rapidly growing, first ring suburb of Columbus, Gahanna (population 33,588) is approaching built-out status. Any growth in the city must involve in-fill and redevelopment. The industrial district provides much of Gahanna's income tax revenue base and serves as an important regional employment center for the lower income areas of Columbus and surrounding counties. However, the uncertainties linked to the city's potential brownfields, especially in the targeted industrial district, discourage economic development and investment. In addition to the abandoned landfill, the area includes a former steel-drum manufacturing site, brick glazing



Assessment Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Gahanna for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments and to implement community outreach activities. Assessments will focus on the Gahanna Industrial District, location of most of the city's brownfields sites.

Cleanup Grants

New
2005

\$400,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Gahanna for two brownfields cleanup grants. Grant funds will be used to clean up soil and groundwater contamination at the Bedford I Landfill, Sections A and B, in the heart of the city's industrial district. Funds will be directed for surface water management and sedimentation ponds, and for cap replacement and repair. At Section A, funds also will be used for leachate interceptor and sump. Approximately 10 million cubic yards of waste were accepted at the landfill which operated from 1970 to 1995. This action is part of a larger cleanup and closure effort at the 90-acre landfill site that is expected to cost approximately \$3 million.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team

312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Gahanna, OH
614-342-4015

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

plant, and other commercial and industrial parcels. Assessment and eventual cleanup and redevelopment of the industrial district is expected to contribute to the slowing of urban sprawl, promote employment opportunities, and increase tax revenues to support local government services. Cleanup of the landfill will help mitigate and prevent environmental problems, including runoff to Big Walnut Creek, landfill gas emissions, and local air quality. The city expects to redevelop the Bedford I Landfill site into a high-tech industrial and office development that will generate 100 new jobs and promote redevelopment in the surrounding areas.